



Maine Department of Education

Multilingual Learner Budgetary Hardship Adjustment Implementation Policy

Policy No.: SF-POL-001.1

Issue Date: 12/1/2022

Purpose: This policy document details statutory language and resulting management decision points that need to be made in order to implement [20-A MRSA §15689, sub-§16](#).

Applicability: This policy impacts any school administrative unit (SAU) that applies for this adjustment, as well as the Department's Data and Finance teams.

Authorization: [20-A MRSA §15689, sub-§16](#)

Key Terms or Acronyms:

Allocation: Product resulting from multiplying pupil count by the EPS rates, as indicated on page 2 of the ED 279 subsidy printout.

ML: Multilingual Learner

MDOE: Maine Department of Education

SAU/School Administrative Unit: A municipal school unit; a regional school unit formed pursuant to chapter 103-A; an alternative organizational structure as approved by the commissioner and approved by the voters; a school administrative district that does not provide public education for the entire span of kindergarten to grade 12 that has not reorganized as a regional school unit pursuant to chapter 103-A; a community school district that has not reorganized as a regional school unit pursuant to chapter 103-A; a municipal or quasi-municipal district responsible for operating public schools that has not reorganized as a regional school unit pursuant to chapter 103-A; a municipal school unit, school administrative district, community school district, regional school unit or any other quasi-municipal district responsible for operating public schools that forms a part of an alternative organizational structure approved by the commissioner; and a public charter school authorized under chapter 112 by an entity other than a local school board.

Subsidizable pupil: All school level pupils who reside in a school administrative unit and who are educated at public expense at a public school or at a private school approved for public tuition purposes.

Policy Statement:



Maine Department of Education

- A. Beginning in fiscal year 2022-23, the following provisions apply to adjustments for multilingual learner budgetary hardships. If a school administrative unit determined eligible pursuant to paragraph B petitions the Commissioner and demonstrates that the unexpected education costs of increased multilingual learner student enrollment will cause a budgetary hardship, the Commissioner may provide an amount equal to that school administrative unit's most recent state share of the increased multilingual learner weighted allocation, as calculated pursuant to section 15675, subsection 1, resulting from the increased enrollment. If the school administrative unit's most recent state share percentage is less than the statewide state share percentage under section 15671, subsection 1, paragraph B, then the adjustment amount is equal to the most recent state share percentage.
- B. The Commissioner may determine that a school administrative unit is eligible for an adjustment if:
1. The increased student enrollment is a result of a student's becoming the fiscal responsibility of the school administrative unit after the passage of the annual budget for the current fiscal year; and
 2. The school administrative unit's unexpected increased enrollment results in an increase of 5% or more in the English (multilingual) learner weighted allocation, as calculated pursuant to section 15675, subsection 1.
- C. The funds for adjustments under paragraph A are limited to the amount appropriated by the Legislature for that purpose.
- D. A school administrative unit may expend the funds from the adjustment under paragraph A without seeking approval of the school administrative unit's legislative body.

Related Procedure(s):

Procedure Name	Procedure Number
Multilingual Learner Budgetary Hardship Adjustment Implementation Procedure	SF-PROC-001.1

Document History & Distribution:

This Policy document will be distributed to Public School Superintendent's and posted on the Department's website.

Version	Revision Log	Date
Version 1.0	Initial Publication	12.01.2022

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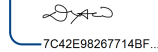
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